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25 July 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. BROSS

SUBJECT: Strategic Warning

1. This memorandum is a follow-on to your conversation
with the DCI and others on 17 July 1968 during which you discussed
the adequacy of our warning effort.

2. On 18 August 1966, in approving the estimate
(NIE 11-10-66) on the capabilities of the intelligence community
to provide warning of a strategic attack, USIB inserted a Note
which reads as follows:

> "The key problem raised by this estimate is the
> impact of advanced technology--most notably the ballistic
> missile--on Soviet attack capabilities, and the accompany-
> ing effects on the Intelligence Community's ability to give
> warning. Not only is warning time reduced, but some of
> the indicators which were considered most pertinent a few
> years ago, such as deployment of significant numbers of
> LRA aircraft to staging bases, may no longer be so relevant
> to a strategic attack. Indicators of the readying of missile
> forces would be much harder to detect, and if they were
> discernible at all, would offer much less lead time. As
> indicated in this estimate, the Intelligence Community is
> aware of the need for special techniques devoted to collect-
> ing, evaluating, and correlating information about Soviet
> activities and behavior. In addition to the pursuit of existing
> methods, it is actively seeking ways to develop and exploit
> new technology for warning purposes. Its efforts include
> development of new technical collection systems and constant
> attention to keeping the list of indicators up-to-date and to
> making the warning system as responsive as possible to
> present and future needs. "

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SECRET

SECRET

3. You are already familiar with the actions taken on the recommendations of the Shute Report. Since that time certain additional actions have taken place which relate to strategic warning. A partial abbreviated list of these, attached hereto, is furnished for your information. Any comments you may have on how to proceed further with this problem would be appreciated.
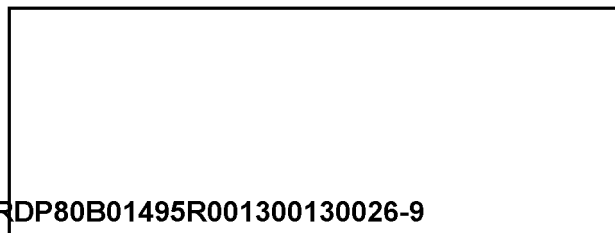
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AD/DCI/NIPE

Attachment

NIPE:RT:dm
Distribution:
    #1 - DCI via DDCI
    #2 - DDCI
    #3 - DD/I
    #4 - Chairman/Watch
    #5 - ER
    #6 - NIPE/subject
    #7 - NIPE/JAB chrono
    #8 - NIPE/RT chrono
    #9 - Kerst/State

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    #10 -   member SWWG
    #11 -
    #12 -
    #13 - NIPE/RT work file

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